

Message Text

SECRET

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11

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 ACDA-05 /058 W

----- 079384

R 281304Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4583

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY SANA

SECDEF WASHDC

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

COMIDEASTFOR

CNO WASHDC

S E C R E T KUWAIT 0447

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, KU

SUBJ: REGIONAL SUPPORT FOR COMIDEASTOR

1. EMBASSY CANNOT, BASED ON OUR CURRENT ASSESMENT, GIVE HOPE THAT KUWAIT WILL BE HELPFUL ON MIDEASTFOR PROBLEM. GOK HAS TOO LONG BEEN PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY CRITICAL OF BAHRAIN ON SUBJECT TO REVERSE ITS POSITION BARRING A MAJOR CHANGE IN REGIONAL POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS (E.G., A SERIOUS NEW IRAQI THREAT).

2. WE HAD HOPED THAT APPARENT SOVIET BOLDNESS IN AFRICA MIGHT MAKE BROADER-THINKING GULF AREA LEADERS MORE RECEPTIVE TO A
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REEXAMINATION OF COMIDEASTFOR'S TERM, BUT IT IS APPARENT

FROM INPUTS FROM EMBASSY TEHRAN AND JIDDA THAT THIS IS NIT THE
CASE. IF THE SOVIETS CONTINUE TO OVEREXTEND THEMSELVES IN
ANGOLA AND ARAB AFRICA, PERHAPS THE GOK WILL BE MORE WILLING TO
FALL IN LINE BEHIND A POSITION (LED BY OTHERS) THAT REMOVAL
OF MIDEASTFOR CONTRIBUTES TO GREAT POWER IMBALANCE IN THE ARAB
WORLD. HOWEVER, WITHOUT SOME COVERING INITIATIVES FROM THE
SHAH OR SAUDIS, KUWAIT WILL NOT VENTURE FORWARD.
MAU

SECRET

NNN

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